

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [019] with the following amended paragraph:

[019] Figure 1 is a functional block diagram illustrating one embodiment of an electrochromic control system 100 that utilizes pulse-width modulation (PWM) in order to minimize the power required to operate the electrochromic window. The illustrated control system 100 configuration is designed for use in optical communication systems. The control system 100 includes a light source such as a laser 105, an EC window 110, an optical detector 115, and a power module that includes a PWM circuit 125 and a power supply 120. The laser 105 generates a light signal that digitally encodes information in one or more wavelength channels. The laser 105 can be any laser source, including gas and semiconductor based lasers. The light signal is transmitted from the laser 105 into the EC window 110. The EC window 110 attenuates the light signal by a specified amount in order to lower the overall power or irradiance of the light signal. This does not affect the digital information that is encoded within the light signal's channels, since attenuation involves blocking a certain percentage of the overall light signal's power as opposed to blocking or filtering specific wavelengths of the light signal. The EC window 110 attenuates the light signal by an amount mathematically related to the amount of voltage applied upon it from the PWM circuit 125. The higher the voltage applied upon the EC window 110, the larger the amount of attenuation generated by the EC window 110 with respect to the light signal. An example of this relationship is represented in the graph of Figure 1B.